

Patent Claims

1. A system for interconnection of components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2), in particular of software components for at least one data processing application, with the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) having at least one interface (S1, S2a..S2n; S1, S2) which is intended for interconnection of the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) by means of an interconnection component (7), with the interconnection component (7) containing information which is required for interconnection of the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2), and with the information which is required for the interconnection of the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) not being contained in a container which surrounds the components.
2. The system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the interconnection intelligence, which is required for the interconnection of the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2), in the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) is provided locally as interconnection information (6).
3. The system as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) are in the form of ActiveX components, in particular input and output components.
4. The system as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized

- 6a -

in that the interconnection component (7) is intended for components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) which are to be interconnected to search for matching interfaces (S1, S2a..S2n; S1, S2).

5

5. The system as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) are intended for multiple interconnection with further components.

10

103730-9646T690

- 7 -

6. A method for interconnection of components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2), in particular of software components for at least one data processing application, in which the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) are interconnected via at least one interface (S1, S2a..S2n; S1, S2), by means of an interconnection component (7), with the interconnection component (7) containing information which is required for interconnection of the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2), and with the information which is required for the interconnection of the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) not being contained in a container which surrounds the components.
7. The method as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the interconnection intelligence, which is required for the interconnection of the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) in the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) is provided locally as interconnection information (6).
8. The method as claimed in one of claims 6 or 7, characterized in that the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) are in the form of ActiveX components, in particular input and output components.
9. The method as claimed in one of claims 6 to 8, characterized in that the interconnection component (7) searches for matching interfaces (S1, S2a..S2n; S1, S2) from components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) which are to be interconnected.

PCT/DE00/00313

- 7a -

10. The method as claimed in one of claims 6 to 9, characterized in that the components (1, 2a..2n; 1, 2) are used for multiple interconnection with further components.

APPB7

[illegible]